

TRIVALENT CHROME CONVERSION COATING**ABSTRACT**

In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, a conversion coating composition comprising chromium (III) ions, cobalt (II) ions, and nitric acid is provided. The coating composition is substantially free of chromium (VI) ions and substantially free of an oxidizing agent. The present trivalent chromium based conversion coating provides corrosion protection equal to or greater than most hexavalent chromium conversion coatings.

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